

Hath God Said?

Understanding How False Doctrine Works

**And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;
Romans 1:28 (KJV) **

I have done a lot of discussion of scripture with reprobates. I know how they reason (or don't) and would like to share why I believe they cling to doctrines that are inherently flawed. There are multiple levels of spiritual truth in God's Word, but perception of these truths is not available to every reader. First let's examine what these levels are.

Plain Meaning

**But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.
2 Corinthians 11:3 (KJV) **

First is the plain truth, the literal meaning of the text which to the reprobate mind is often hidden. Sometimes it is because they believe it must be more complicated than it actually is. Other times they reject the conclusion that must be plainly drawn from the text and therefore must twist the meaning of scripture. While they claim they are applying logic to scripture more often than not their methodology makes no sense at all. Take **John 3:16 **:

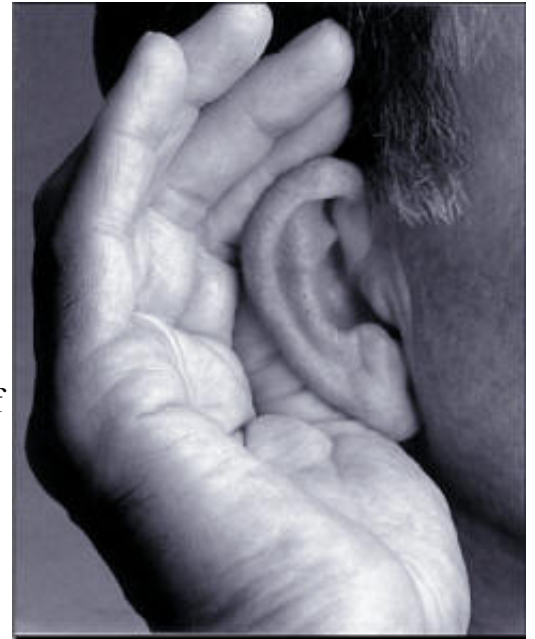
**For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.
John 3:16-17 (KJV) **

To the Calvinist and others who hold to the doctrine of "Once Saved, Always Saved" this verse is a real problem. It plainly implies (and rightly so) that we have the ability to choose to serve Christ. Whoever wants to may choose of their own free will to believe in Him, and thereby be saved. The Calvinist cannot accept this concept because it contradicts the teachings of John Calvin; but instead of tossing out Calvinism they twist God's Word! They interpret "whosoever believeth in him" as only those whom God has chosen, the elect.

Calvinists also teach that we are unable to resist the call of God. So for them this reads: If those who He chose to believe in Him, will believe in Him, they will have everlasting life? Also the next verse is problematic, because they must somehow believe that when it says "the world" it really means only the select few of the elect.

Parables

And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to



others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand.

Luke 8:10 (KJV) 

Parables are spiritual allegories that make deep spiritual truths understandable. Some say that the parables were spoken to confuse the lost, but God is not the author of confusion. If Christ didn't want them to know the truth He wouldn't have shared the parables but remained silent. That is not to say that everyone who heard them immediately understood them. The parables were designed to be reflected upon by the hearer and revealed in due course.

Spiritually Discerned Truth

The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Song of Solomon 2:13 (KJV) 

The bible is teeming with allegory, most of which the reader without the providence of the Holy Spirit will never even detect, let alone understand. 'Song of Solomon' is a perfect example, a book that's in its entirety dedicated to the allegory of the relationship between the Bridegroom (Christ) and His Bride (us). Compare the above verse to **Matthew 24:32-33** 

The reprobate mind cannot grasp spiritual truth. There may be certain awareness that there is meaning hidden below the surface as it were, but without the providence of the Holy Spirit they simply cannot discern what it is. I often refer to it as trying to see in the dark with a hammer. At this juncture they usually turn to exegesis. Oh, how they love to use that word! When they start talking about '**exegesis**' you can usually be sure they reject the plain meaning of scripture.

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1 Corinthians 2:14 (KJV) 

In theory exegesis is a critical explanation or interpretation of the bible, but in practice it is what the 'scholars' do when they reject the plain meaning of scripture. They impose their own doctrine on the text instead of taking their doctrine from the plain meaning of it. They twist the words; they take the text and beat it mercilessly as Balaam did his donkey, desperate for results. They think the truth is hidden from them due to some intellectual deficiency or inadequacy and that they must 'go to the Greek' and retranslate the scripture. They believe they must read countless bible commentaries or the writings of the early church leaders, that all of the answers we need are not found in God's Word.

Context is always important no matter what we're reading but another tactic of denying God's Word is claiming a verse is taken out of context when it clearly is not.

